Washington, D. C. 20505

717-8845/A

23 September 1977

Dear Mrs. Kelley,

Thank you for the kind invitation to address the Annual National Luncheon of the Society of Sponsors of the U.S. Navy. I accept with pleasure.

As I'm sure you have heard by now, my wife, Patricia, was recently asked to sponsor a new destroyer being built in Pascagoula, Mississippi. She, of course, is thrilled and I am honored to have been asked to speak at the ceremony.

So, addressing your distinguished group will be a special honor and I am certainly looking forward to the occasion.

Thanks again and all the best.

Yours since

STANSFIELD TURNER

Mrs. M. Russell Kelley President, Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy 3601 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008

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SOCIETY OF SPONSORS
OF THE
UNITED STATES NAVY

8/19/77

My dear admiral Turner, -Us President of the Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy, it is my prevelege to envite you to be the quest Speaker at our Cennuse National luncheva on May 4, 1978. The mountership of our Society is made up of ladies who have christened a fighting thip of the Winted States Navy, Over Society was founded in 1908 under the argis of President Theodore Rosswelt, and its perpose is the promotion of interest in and good wied Toward our Newy. We assist qualified deserving young men prepare for Naval Service through pehasor. Ships to Preparatouschools, I enclose a flyer for your enformation. In 1978 we wree be relebrating our 70th anni-- versary, and it would indeed be a pleasure to have you a colores res. Thouking you for your kind consideration, and looking ferrivard to your favarable reply, I Very truly yours aun Lucilest Kelley) President Society of Aponsons of the United States Navy Mrs. M. Kiessell Kelley



## SOCIETY OF SPONSORS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY

The Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy was founded in 1908 by Mrs. Keith Frazier Somerville of Cleveland, Mississippi, sponsor of the U.S.S. Tennessee in 1904, and Mrs. Mary Campbell Underwood of Birmingham, Alabama, sponsor of the U.S.S. Birmingham. At that time there were fourteen members. There are now over eight hundred.

The requirement for membership is the christening of a ship of the fighting fleet of the U.S. Navy, and in appreciation of this important occasion it is hoped all sponsors will take pride in the achievements of the Navy and will be interested in the promotion of a popular sentiment for its support and development.

The primary activity of the Society is awarding scholarships for preparation to enter the Naval Academy on the basis of need and qualification. Applicants are considered in the following order:

- 1. Sons of deceased, retired, and active Navy and Marine personnel.
- 2. Sons of personnel of the other military services.
- 3. Sons of civilians.

A prize is also given each year to the graduating midshipman with the highest proficiency in small craft handling.

There are four classes of membership: Life Member, one hundred and fifty dollars with no annual dues; Sustaining Member, fifteen dollars a year; Annual Member, eight dollars a year; and Honorary membership for the wives of the Presidents of the United States.

The Annual Meeting of the Society takes place in Washington, D. C. during May, with two days of meetings followed by the Society's large annual luncheon.